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March 25, 2004

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NEWTON C. BLANCHARD (1922)  
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ARTHUR O'QUIN (1972)  
WILTON H. WILLIAMS, JR. (1975)  
LEON O'QUIN (1979)  
JOSEPH W. MILNER (1989)  
ROBERT ROBERTS, JR. (1991)  
CLYDE W. THURMON (1992)  
PIKE HALL, JR. (1999)  
MARLIN RISINGER, JR. (2002)

OF COUNSEL  
GILBERT L. HETHERWICK  
ROBERT ROBERTS III  
NEILSON S. JACOBS

Honorable James H. Welsh  
Commissioner of Conservation  
State of Louisiana  
Post Office Box 94275  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9275

RE: HEARING APPLICATION  
Lower Cotton Valley Zone  
Minden Field  
Webster Parish, Louisiana  
Our File No. 360135.0015

Dear Sir:

On behalf of O'BRIEN ENERGY COMPANY, application is hereby made for a public hearing to receive evidence concerning the issuance of an order pertaining to the following matters relating to the Lower Cotton Valley Zone, in the Minden Field, Webster Parish, Louisiana:

1. To redefine the Lower Cotton Valley Zone, in the Minden Field, Webster Parish, Louisiana, INsofar AND ONLY INsofar as to LCV SUB, LCV SUC and LCV SUD, as being that gas and condensate bearing interval encountered between the depths of 11,085 feet and 12,042 feet (electrical log measurements) in the O'Brien Energy Company - West 28 No. 1 Well, located in Section 28, Township 19 North, Range 8 West, Webster Parish, Louisiana.
2. Except for the redefinition noted above, to ratify, confirm and continue in full force and effect LCV SUB, LCV SUC and LCV SUD, as shown on the plat attached hereto, which were created by Office of Conservation Order No. 457-AA, effective November 1, 1968, as drilling and production units for the exploration for and production of gas and condensate from the Lower Cotton Valley Zone, in the Minden Field, Webster Parish, Louisiana.
3. Except to the extent contrary herewith, to extend the provisions of the Office of Conservation 457-AA Series of Orders to the abovesaid units, as ratified and confirmed.
4. To consider such other matters and issue such orders as may be appropriate and

justified by the evidence presented at the hearing.

The Lower Cotton Valley Zone, in the Minden Field, Webster Parish, Louisiana, was previously redefined in Office of Conservation Order No. 457-AA-6, effective December 16, 2003, INsofar AND ONLY INsofar as to LCV SUB, LCV SUC and LCV SUD, but shall be redefined as set forth above as to said units.

Pertinent data concerning the intended application will be made available for inspection at the offices of O'Brien Energy Company, 5925 Line Avenue, Suite 7, Shreveport, Louisiana 71106. Any person wishing to inspect such data should call Alan Brittain at (318) 865-8568 during normal business hours or write Mr. Brittain at the above address in order to arrange a date and time for such inspection. A copy of any such pertinent data can be obtained at the expense of the requesting party.

A list of the names and addresses of all Interested Owners, Represented Parties and Interested Parties (as defined in the Rules of Procedure) is attached hereto, and a copy of this notice, with the annexed plat, is being sent to each of such persons. A reasonable effort has been made to determine that the enclosed list includes all of the persons to whom this notice must be sent under the Rules of Procedure.

By Pre-Application Notice dated March 10, 2004, applicant advised the Commissioner of Conservation, the District Manager and all Interested Owners, Represented Parties and Interested Parties of applicant's intention to apply for the hearing which is the subject of this application. Applicant received no request for a conference, and accordingly, no conference will be held.

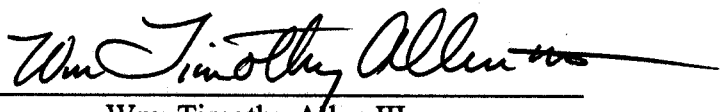
A check in the amount of \$755.00 made payable to the Commissioner of Conservation is enclosed herewith as the statutory fee for holding the requested hearing.

This application is being filed in duplicate, and a copy hereof is being sent to Mr. James C. Broussard, Shreveport District Manager of the Office of Conservation and to each Interested Owner, Represented Party and Interested Party whose name is shown on the attached list.

Very truly yours,

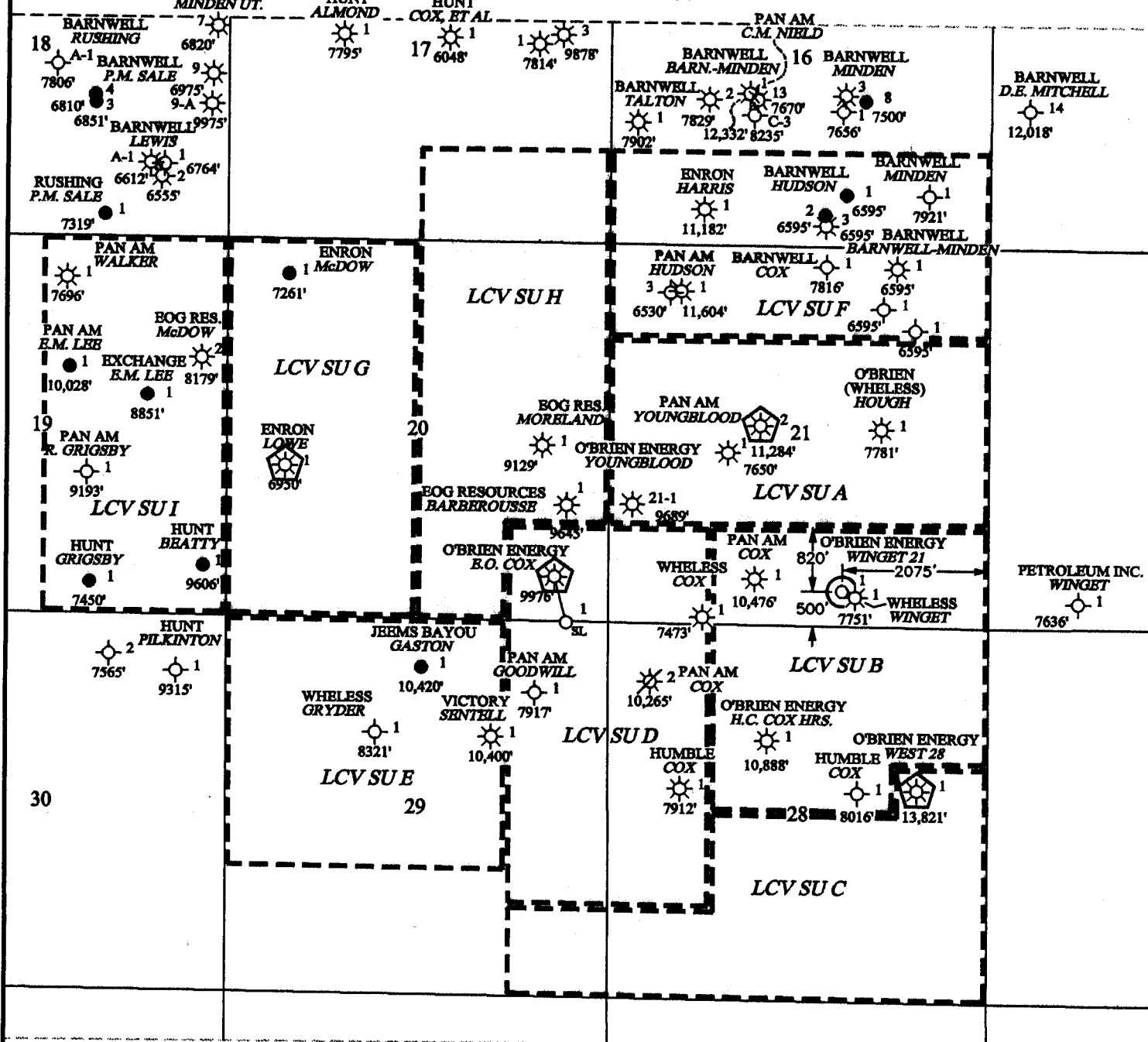
BLANCHARD, WALKER, O'QUIN & ROBERTS

WTAIII/bp  
Enclosures

By:   
Wm. Timothy Allen III  
Attorneys for O'Brien Energy Company

cc: Mr. James C. Broussard, Shreveport District Manager,  
Office of Conservation (w/enclosures)  
Interested Owners, Represented Parties  
and Interested Parties (w/copy of plat only)




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**O'BRIEN ENERGY COMPANY**  
SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA

**MINDEN FIELD**  
WEBSTER PARISH, LOUISIANA

**UNIT PLAT FOR LOWER COTTON VALLEY SAND UNITS**

-  : EXISTING LOWER COTTON VALLEY UNIT WELLS
-  : EXISTING LOWER COTTON VALLEY SAND UNITS
-  : PROPOSED LOWER COTTON VALLEY UNIT WELL

